



**IN THE UNITED STATES**  
**PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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SEP 18 2001  
Technology Center 2600

Applicant: **Shuo-Yen Robert Li**

Case: **18**

Serial No. **09/882,328**

Filed: **June 15, 2001**

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title of Invention: **SELF-ROUTING CONTROL MECHANISM OVER  
MULTISTAGE INTERCONNECTION NETWORKS OF  
CONCENTRATORS**

**THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

**SIR:**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.  
Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Please replace all of pages 8 and 9, namely, the "Summary of the Invention", with  
the following:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The shortcomings of the prior art, as well as other limitations and  
deficiencies, are obviated in accordance with the present invention by applying algebraic  
principles to the physical realization of a large switching fabric based upon contemporary  
technologies.

In accordance with a broad method aspect of the present invention, a  
method for self-routing a packet through a  $b2^n \times b2^n$  switching network includes: (a)

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